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The Power and Promise of Transformative Philanthropy

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INDIANA UNIVERSITY
Maurer School of Law
Bloomington



The Power and Promise of Transformative Philanthropy

Few public law schools could dare to imagine the transformative support that Indiana Law has received this year.

In December 2007, the Lilly Endowment announced a \$25 million grant to attract and retain exceptional faculty, and the university stepped forward to match the income from that gift. The School already attracts professors with passion, who have identified important problems and want to solve them, while engaging and inspiring students. With the Lilly grant, we will be able to hire and retain world-class teachers and legal scholars who will be leaders in their respective fields. The grant presents an exceptional opportunity to advance our primary mission — to enhance justice and create conditions for justice around the world through teaching and research. Such important work is never finished, but the Lilly Endowment's generosity will allow us to persist in that work by preparing our students on a more robust and intellectually astute level. This transformative gift presents

a unique opportunity for us, one that will assure that our students receive a legal education that is unrivaled in the country, and that will enable our graduates to continue to serve the state, the nation, and the world in the highest and best traditions of the legal profession.

The grant has already yielded results. We look forward to welcoming several outstanding new faculty members in the coming year and enhancing support for the superior scholarship of our current faculty.

In December 2008, Michael and Janie Maurer committed \$35 million to recruit top students, and the university again pledged to match the income from that gift. This unprecedented gift is only the most recent expression of the Maurers' extraordinary commitment to Indiana Law. For more than 30 years, Mickey has been a devoted supporter of IU and Indiana Law. His service, loyalty, and leadership earned him a place in the Academy of Law Alumni Fellows in 1996. He received the IU Distinguished



Alumni Service Award in 2001, and, in 2007, he received the IU Foundation President's Medal for his outstanding and sustained support of the IU Foundation and the university. During his leadership of the Law School's first capital campaign, the Maurers endowed a chair in honor of Val Nolan, one of our School's most admired professors.

It is a great privilege to have my own work supported by the Nolan chair. As one of the many personal beneficiaries of the Maurers' philanthropy, I have had years to observe Mickey's character, integrity, and effectiveness. Mickey is a man who has climbed mountains — literally, including Kilimanjaro. He is a man with an omnivorous mind unthreatened by brilliance, who seeks out people at the very top of their fields because he is curious to know what they know. His talents extend across numerous disciplines. He has a lexicographer's dazzling command of words — his crossword puzzles have been regularly published by the *New York Times*, and his books and columns are a joy to read for their insight and passion. He has an extremely fine eye as a photographer, and his photographs have garnered awards. In other words, he appreciates, cultivates, and practices excellence in all that he does.

Michael Maurer's vision has been the driving force behind a wide variety of efforts to improve the future for the state of Indiana, from raising hundreds of thousands of dollars for nonprofits, to spearheading the efforts of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation to bring jobs and businesses to the state. His vision and generosity to see what Indiana Law could offer top students the finest legal education in the country. As dean, I am thrilled at the example he sets for our students, with a lifetime of achievements spanning law, business, and public service. That our School now bears his name is a mark of distinction and a tribute to his commitment to helping Indiana Law achieve its highest potential — a commitment matched by the university, as well as our alumni, faculty, and staff.

Together with other gifts from visionary donors like Bill Hunt and Don Dorfman, whose stories and names fill these pages, the School has raised nearly \$85 million so far in this campaign. Our alumni have been the cornerstone of our most successful fundraising effort in School history. Despite challenging economic times, Indiana Law is better positioned than ever before to achieve the goals set forth in our strategic plan.

Thanks to the donors and volunteers who believed in the promise of first-class public legal education, we will look back on this year as a turning point for our School. Here is my pledge to all the members of our community, to our university, and to our state: We will use this extraordinary opportunity to build the best public law school in the world. We will fulfill the trust you have shown in our institution.

All my best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lauren Robel". The script is fluid and cursive.

Lauren K. Robel, JD'83
Dean and Val Nolan Professor of Law